

Leaders Make A Difference, NOT Excuses!

Command Voice

Volume 2, No. 2

Family Support & Information Newsletter serving HQs, 306th MI Bn.

April 30, 2000

Ready to Rock!

Staff Sgt. Billy Arnold gives the operations order to his squad members, SGT William James, and SPC Sheryl Martinez during Day 3 of the Headquarters Company Common Tasks Testing and Training/Field Training Exercise at Site Freedom, Fort Huachuca. Soldiers tested their survival techniques and common tasks during the CTT/FTX. Currently, Headquarters is the only company in Garrison that conducts CTT training/testing during an FTX.



1SG Michael W. Roberts

Register to vote at the Staff Judge Advocate's Legal Assistance Office

Exercise your freedom to vote!

Stop by the Claims Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Building 51102 before Friday, May 5, to register to vote. Forms are available for Arizona resi-

dents and out-of-state residents. Persons wishing to register may obtain information and absentee ballots by going on the web at www.fvap.ncr.gov. For voting questions, contact legal assistance at 533-2009.

Commander's Column

Spring's here: Plan now for upcoming events

By CPT Monica Cater
Company Commander

Spring is in the air, and the time is going by so quickly. Be sure to stop and smell the roses. In the in-between time, life is still fast pace in Headquarters. Here are some of the events that have already occurred this Spring and those that will occur this May.

Headquarters Company has a volleyball team. Our record is not one to brag about, but we definitely are having fun! Softball will start soon, and I know Headquarters is fired up about that. The company did very well last year, and I know they will BEAT A Company this year too — friendly competition of course.

We had several company members participate in the Baatan Death March on 16 April at White Sands Missile Range. The heavy ruck team members were SFC Jackson, SGT Felker, SFC Putnam, SFC Tymes and CPT Rowley. Chaplain Botsford, SFC Glaus and myself walked the 26.2 miles in civilian attire.

Headquarters Company ran the Battalion M16 Range this month with 92 firers. In addition, the Common Task Testing (CTT) Field Training Exercise (FTX) from April 18-21 was a success this year. It was a good chance for soldiers to break away from the busy office, e-mail and paperwork and train on soldier skills. Also, sol-

diers whose first assignment is Fort Huachuca got a taste of what the field is really like. Thank you cadre for all your support and selfless service!

We have several soldiers who will run the Thunder Mountain Marathon, May 6, 2000, SSG Adon, SFC Mendez, CPT Armstrong, the G3/S1 team and a Garrison team. Spring Cleanup is May 9-10 for the installation and every office/workplace.

May 23 is Safety Stand Down Day for Fort Huachuca. Murr Community will have many exhibits and information for soldiers, civilians, and family members. Remember to take advantage of this opportunity—of course it is mandatory for soldiers. Safety is paramount for the four-day weekend, May 26-29. Ensure pass requests are submitted to the company and POV inspections are up-to-date. On Monday, May 29 at 11:30 a.m. at the Post Cemetery, there is a Memorial Day Ceremony to honor MG Pochlya and all veterans. From what I've heard, the ceremony is worthwhile to see. Dress is appropriate civilian attire for all soldiers not participating in the ceremony.

Want to say a special farewell to 1LT Faint, the Honor Guard Platoon Leader (PL). She is an exceptional leader and has performed outstandingly as PL and also as the company Executive

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Top Notch

The Soldier's Creed



ISG Michael W. Roberts

I have recently begun going over the NCO Creed in depth with the noncommissioned officers of this unit during the monthly NCO Development Program sessions. The NCO Creed symbolizes what the NCO Corps stands for. Along those same lines, I thought it important to

discuss with all of you, the Soldiers Creed, and what it means to wear our uniform.

"I am an American soldier. I am a member of the United States Army - a protector of the greatest nation on earth. Because I am proud of the uniform I wear, I will always act in ways creditable to the military service and the nation it is sworn to guard."

Being an American soldier is something that others only dream about. We serve in the greatest Army on Earth, defending a nation that others strive to become a part of. Our uniform, both on and off duty, is a symbol of excellence.

You may hear people in the community talk bad about the military when they see you in uniform. It is your responsibility to wear your uniform proudly and help to correct any stigma that your predecessors may have set that allows our civilian counterparts to feel this way.

We made a solemn oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. We must do this both on and off duty and ensure that we represent a force that makes our country proud.

"I am proud of my own organization. I will do all I can to make it the finest unit in the Army. I will be loyal to those under whom I serve. I will do my full part to carry out orders and instructions given me or my unit."

We must do everything we can to carry out all orders given to our unit. If we do not, we are not only failing this post, but the Army as a whole. There are many times that we, as the Garrison Company, receive tasking for things that we may not necessarily want to do. Regardless of that fact, we must remember that the tasking we receive is our duty to fulfill, no matter how unpleasant it may be. When a tasking comes down, we must step up to the plate and fill that tasking. In doing so, we are committing ourselves to the greater good of the Army and our country.

"As a soldier, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored profession - that I am doing my share to keep alive the principles of freedom for which my country stands. No matter what situation I am in, I will never do anything, for pleasure, profit, or personal safety, which will disgrace my uniform, my unit, or my country. I will use every means I have, even beyond the line of duty, to restrain my Army comrades from actions disgraceful to themselves and the uniform."

The military service has been in existence since 1775, prior to the United States becoming a country. We have been honored and revered since that time. We were organized to ensure that the rights of the people of our great nation always come first. We must strive to ensure that the honor bestowed upon us is not tarnished.

As soldiers, we have certain responsibilities. We must never place our own needs above those of the Army. We must never do anything that gives the appearance that we are doing something for our own pleasure, profit, or personal safety. The minute we do, it will be obvious to everyone around us and will disgrace the uniform that we wear. Everything we do, both on and off duty, should be for the greater good of the Army and this nation. It is our responsibility to ensure that all

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What's New

Master Sgt. selectees

Congratulations to SFC (P) George O'Brien, Retention and SFC (P) LaToya Sizer, PAO, for being selected for promotion to master sergeant.

Promotions

SSG Efrain Diaz, G3
SGT Brian Bokkin, Chapel
SGT Blaine Felker, SJA
SGT William James, PAO
SGT Craig Wegener, Airfield
SPC Amanda Prier, SJA
SPC John Scott, SJA
PV2 Marla Quinones, Garrison
PV2 Tonya Rivers, Retention
PV2 LaRon Watkins, Cmd. Grp.

Soldier of the Month

Congratulations to SPC Jeffrey Denton, Command Group, for being named the Headquarters Company Soldier of the Month for May.

Denton will now compete for the 306th MI Battalion Soldier of the Month.

Headquarters online

Find out the latest about the company's boards, ceremonies, checklists, calendar, EO & CO2, hot topics, photo album, policy letters, retention and training by going to the company's homepage. Check out <http://138.27.35.32/garrison/306hq/index.htm>.

Softball Players sought

If you're interested in playing for the Headquarters Company softball team, now is the time to volunteer.

The company is looking for about 20 people -- soldiers, civilians and family members, to form its coed team.

Contact SGT Wegener at 538-2860 or 1SG Roberts at 533-3800 to sign up or for more information.

NCOES Graduates

SFC David Tymes, S1
SGT Rodney Eden, BNCOC
SGT Blaine Felker, PLDC
SGT William James, PLDC
SPC Shaun DeWees, PLDC
SPC Brian Bokkin, PLDC

Death March team

Heavy Ruck Team members SFC Craig Putnam, SFC Pricella Jackson, CPT Rowley, SGT Blaine Felker and SFC David Tymes participated in the Bataan Death March April 16 at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. The death march was 26.2 miles.



Photo by CPT William Cater

"The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra!"

Chaplain's Corner

Take time to play and be a kid

Compiled by Chaplain Jeffrey Botsford

Okay, the following story doesn't apply here. But the point is there. Take time to play and be a kid. Enjoy!

My eyes were glued to the television as the words across the bottom of the screen listed school after school. "Where's my school?" I whined as I shut off the TV and continued working through my mound of homework.

It was nearly midnight, and the snow and ice fell rapidly. As I stared out my window before I went to sleep, the streets and yard looked like a sea of marshmallows. I couldn't believe I'd have to gather up my books in the morning and wade to the bus stop.

When my radio alarm went off, I listened as the DJ read the list of schools that were closed. This time my school made the list!

I fell back on my pillow, smiling as I drifted back to sleep. Around noon, I dragged myself out of bed. I got on the phone and started calling friends, to find out how everybody else was spending the day off. Somebody suggested we pull out our sleds and meet on the hill over by my old elementary school.

After bundling up, I headed for the schoolyard.

As I prepared for another ride down the

slippery hill, a snowball smacked me on the back of my head. I turned to see Katie standing several feet from me, grinning and reaching for more snow. I grabbed my own handful of snow, pressed it into a solid white ball and tossed it, hitting her on the side of her arm. I shouted, "Gotcha back!" Before long, all my friends had joined the fight.

We spent that whole afternoon sledding, and making snowmen and snow angels.

Sometime during the day, something hit me besides a snowball. I realized I was actually having fun. Fun? Boy, that was a word I hadn't thought of for a real long time. I'd been so busy with papers, tests and worrying over grade point averages that I'd forgotten how to have a good time.

As we continued to play in the snow, I was amazed at how young I felt — and acted. With thoughts of homework, tests and papers on hold, I felt so carefree. It was almost as if I was 5 years old again!

I believe God used that big snowfall to wake me up to an important truth: No matter how "grown up" I think I am, no matter how busy my schedule gets, I have to take time to play and laugh. After all, decent grades aren't worth much if I'm too burned out to enjoy them.

————— by Rachel Schlabach

To achieve your dreams, remember your ABCs

Avoid negative sources, people, places, things and habits.

Believe in yourself.

Consider things from every angle.

Don't give up, and don't give in.

Enjoy life today; yesterday is gone; tomorrow may never come.

Family and friends are hidden treasures; seek

them and enjoy their riches.

Give more than you planned to.

Hang on to your dreams.

Ignore those who try to discourage you.

Just do it.

Keep trying no matter how hard it seems; it will get easier.

Love yourself first and most.

Make it happen.

Never lie, cheat or steal; always strike a fair deal.

Open your eyes and see things as they really are.

Practice makes perfect.

Quitters never win, and winners never quit.

Read, study and learn about everything important in your life.

Stop procrastinating.

Take control of your own destiny.

Understand yourself in order to better understand others.

Visualize it.

Want it more than anything.

X-celerate your efforts.

You are unique of all God's creations; nothing can replace YOU.

Zero in on your target, and go for it.

Common Sense



Members of the Select Honor Guard prepare to fold the flag.

Spc. Joseph Mykal Scarfone

Honor Guard: Always out front

1LT Lilla Faint
Company Executive Officer

You know they are there every day at Reveille and Retreat. You see them at PT formations, M-16 ranges, common task training and the battalion awards ceremonies.

If you're in the area you may hear the three volleys fired from the Post Cemetery or the loud BOOM of the 75mm howitzers on Range 10. But mostly you see them out on Brown and Chaffee Parade Fields carrying the Colors for changes of command, End of Month Reviews, and other ceremonies.

Lately, though, you may have noticed many new, unfamiliar faces in the Honor Guard or the platoon has looked a little meek at PT, ranges and other company functions. January and February brought about many personnel changes, to include the

farewell of SSG Glenn Rodney and the welcome of SFC Robert Zuniga as the platoon sergeant.

Second squad is a completely new squad with only two of the members a part of the platoon in December still remaining, with first squad to follow with a complete change this month. The millennium also brought about a change in the laws governing how funeral honors are to be rendered.

We are conducting more funeral honors in more places than we have in almost two years. TDY missions have re-entered our daily vocabulary, and the unusual occasion of two funerals happening on the same day is now expected.

The new year has also brought praises and commendation to many soldiers in the platoon.

The Garrison Commander recognized eight soldiers (SGT Creighton, CPL Gilbert, SPC

Foster, SPC Echols, PFC Johnson, PFC Hanzlik, PFC Eaton, and SGT Searle—the bugler) at the battalion awards ceremony in March for their professionalism at a funeral in January.

Congratulations to SSG Estrada, CPL Gilbert, and PFC Shook who were all promoted this quarter, and to SGT Creighton, SGT Washington, and SPC DeWees for becoming promotable. Great job, thank you, good luck and farewell also goes out to SPC DeWees who just completed PLDC and will attend Airborne school enroute to his new job at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Next quarter is going to continue to be busy, with the Memorial Day Ceremony, Hall of Fame activities, and of course many more funerals. So, if you don't recognize someone or don't see us at all, don't worry ... we're out there somewhere.

Spring

Officer. She will go very far and do great things in her career! We will miss you tremendously. Wish you and your husband, CPT Faint the best in Korea.

We give a big welcome to 1LT Holden. She arrived at Fort Huachuca mid April from Korea and will be taking over as PL for the Honor Guard.

I want to take this opportu-

nity to inform everyone that TOP is recovering exceptionally well from his shoulder surgery that occurred Feb. 17. Usually it takes months to recover to the strengthening phase, where as TOP has recovered in weeks. TOP is a model example of what it takes to succeed in anything—great attitude, determination, and perseverance. HUA TOP!

Have a happy, safe and fun Spring. Remember to give us a call if you have any issues, conflicts, or better yet good news! We like to hear from you. 533-3800/2357.

“Obstacles are what we see when we take our eyes off the goal” -- author unknown

NCO

soldiers in the Army do the same. If you see a soldier doing something that could possibly bring discredit upon the service, correct it immediately. This can be something as simply as wearing the uniform improperly, standing with hands in pockets, walking to and from a motorcycle with helmet on, or driving away instead of rendering proper honors to our nation's flag during reveille or retreat. Failing to correct these types of deficiencies is dereliction of duty.

“I am proud of my country and its flag. I will try to make the people of this nation proud of the service I represent, for I am an American soldier.”

Every morning when you rise, no matter what uniform you put on, PT, BDU, or Class A, look in the mirror and think about what that uniform represents. Be proud of the uniform that you wear and ensure that you conduct yourself at all times so as to bring credit upon the

unit, the military service, and our country. Remember that you are a defender of the greatest nation

on earth. REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE AN AMERICAN SOLDIER!

Creed Of The Noncommissioned Officer

“No one is more professional than I. I am a Noncommissioned Officer, a leader of soldiers. As a Noncommissioned Officer, I realize that I am a member of a time honored corps, which is known as “The Backbone of the Army.”

I am proud of the Corps of the Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the Corps, the Military Service, and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.

Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind - accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my soldiers. I will strive to remain tactically and technically proficient.

I am aware of my role as a Noncommissioned Officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in

that role. All soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my soldiers, and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers in my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate actions in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, Noncommissioned Officers, leaders.”

Many thanks for a 'thankless' job

By SGT James Pitts
Company Supply Sergeant

Duties of the First Sergeant:

- * To support the commander in all specified duties and ensure the commander is successful.
- * Take care of soldiers.
- * Train platoon sergeants to be able to do the first sergeant's job.
- * Make all soldiers and their families feel that they are a part of the company.
- * Ensure the chain of command briefs incoming soldiers.
- * Assigns sponsors to all new soldiers.
- * Corrects personnel pay and family problems immediately.
- * Ensure soldiers new to the company have adequate housing and are comfortable.
- * Ensure training is being accomplished to standard.
- * Primary instructor of all noncommissioned officer professional development classes.
- * Ensure counseling of all soldiers is being conducted.
- * In charge of all company administration.
- * Most knowledgeable NCO in the company on tactical operations.

I think everybody understands what I'm trying to get at here. I could go on and on and on about what the first sergeant's duties are and what a lot of

The gist of this article is not to glorify any one person but to bring to the realization of how hard SFC Putnam, the commander and first sergeant really do work. They all care about their jobs and soldiers.

people, including myself, don't see on a daily basis.

Could you imagine filling these shoes for a day? I know that personally it can be nerve-racking to stand in front of the company and take charge of PT or to get out there and call cadence. Well imagine filling these shoes for a month. That is what SFC Craig Putnam, our operations sergeant, did. He filled the first sergeant's role, the company ops role and whatever else came up.

Putnam is always there if you need help with any administrative or personal problems. He makes life down at the company fun and enjoyable.

I rarely hear Putnam complain, except about the phone ringing off the hook. I've sat in the Orderly Room, just trying to relax, and have seen Putnam holding a conversation on the phone, working on the computer, and in-processing a new soldier into the company.

Don't go into the operations office searching for peace and quiet! Putnam's and the first sergeant's office is the place you want to "stay away from" if you're looking for peace and quiet.

I personally think Putnam is an NCO that soldiers should try to emulate. He also has great teachers. I've seen the commander, first sergeant and SFC Putnam go in 20 different directions between the three of them and still come together at the end of the day. Through it all, they can sit down with soldiers and provide assistance at the end of that difficult day.

A lot of people don't realize how hard the company staff actually works, except the supply sergeant. If he actually worked he wouldn't have time to write this article.

The gist of this article is not to glorify any one person but to bring to the realization of how hard Putnam, the company commander and first sergeant really do work. They all care about their jobs and soldiers.

I also want to point out that a lot of people work very hard in the company and never get the recognition they deserve. I personally feel we have the best chain of command in the United States Army (I know from past experiences) and am appreciative for that.

Thank you CPT Cater, 1SG Roberts and SFC Putnam for all your hard work.